

## GUARDIAN ANGELS.

Rev. Dr. Talmage Says They Keep Watch Over Mortals.

NEXT TO GOD IN POWER.

They Control the Destiny of the Human Race. They Give Warning When Evil Approaches.

The brilliant being supposed by some to be imaginary as by Dr. Talmage in his sermon shown to be real and to have much to do with our everyday life. The text is Judges xiii, 19. "And the angel did wonderfully."

Fire built on a rock. Mahab and his wife had there kindled the flames for sacrifice in praise of God and in honor of a guest whom they supposed to be a man. But as the flame rose higher and higher their stranger guest stepped into the flame and by one red leap ascended into the skies. Then they knew that was an angel of the Lord. "The angel did wonderfully." Two hundred and forty-eight times does the Bible refer to the angels, yet I never heard or read a sermon on angelology. The whole subject is relegated to the realms of myth, weird, spectral and unknown. Such adjournment is no Scriptural and wicked. Of their life, their character, their habits, their actions, their velocities, the Bible gives us full length portraits, and why this prolonged and absolute silence concerning them? Angelology is my theme.

There are two nations of angels and they are hostile to each other—the nation of good angels and the nation of bad angels. Of the former I chiefly speak today. Their capital, their headquarters, their grand rendezvous, is heaven, but their empire is the universe. They are a distinct race of creatures. No human being can ever join their confraternity. Their child who in the Sabbath school sings, "I want to be an angel," will never have her wish gratified. They are superhuman, but they are of different grades and ranks, not all on the same level or the same height. They have their superiors and inferiors and equals. I propose to guess on this subject, but take the Bible for my own authority. Plato, the philosopher, gnostic and divined angels into three classes: celestial and sub-celestial. Dionysius the Areopagite guessed and divided them into three classes; the supreme, the middle and the last, and each of these into three other classes, making nine in all. Philo said that angels were related to God, as the rays to the sun. Fulgentius said that they were composed of body and spirit. Clement said that they were incorporeal. Augustine said that they had bodies of falling, but now are beyond being tempted. But the only authority on this subject that I respect says they are divided into cherubim, seraphim, thrones, dominations, principalities, powers. Their commander in chief is Michael. Daniel called him Michael. St. John called him Michael. These are the names of the angels.

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A further characteristic of the celestial beings is their velocity. This the Bible puts sometimes under the figure of wings, sometimes under the figure of a flowing garment, sometimes under the figure of naked feet. As these superhumans are without bodies, these expressions are of course figurative and mean swiftness. The Bible tells us that Daniel was praying and Gabriel flew from heaven and touched him with the feet he got up from his knees. How far, then, did the angel Gabriel have to fly in those moments of Daniel's prayer? Heaven is thought to be the center of the universe. Our sun and its planets only the rim of the wheel of

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Another remark I have to make concerning these illustrious immortals is that they are multitudinous. Their census has never been taken and no one but God knows how many they are, but the Bible accounts of their numbers are numerous. Armies of them, mountain tops haloed by them, skies populous with them. John speaks of angels and other beings round the throne as ten thousand times ten thousand. Now, according to my calculation, ten thousand times ten thousand are 100,000,000. But these are only the angels in one place. David counted 20,000 of them looking down the sky when he was liberated. When God came from the seven rocks of Mount Sinai, the Bible says he had the companionship of 10,000 angels. I think they are in every birth, in every agony, at every hour, at every moment, the earth full of them, the heavens full of them. They outnumber the human race in this world. They outnumber ransomed spirits. They outnumber Abraham's hosts. They outnumber the angels who in the Sabbath school sing, "I want to be an angel," will never have her wish gratified. They are superhuman, but they are of different grades and ranks, not all on the same level or the same height. They have their superiors and inferiors and equals. I propose to guess on this subject, but take the Bible for my own authority. Plato, the philosopher, gnostic and divined angels into three classes: celestial and sub-celestial. Dionysius the Areopagite guessed and divided them into three classes; the supreme, the middle and the last, and each of these into three other classes, making nine in all. Philo said that angels were related to God, as the rays to the sun. Fulgentius said that they were composed of body and spirit. Clement said that they were incorporeal. Augustine said that they had bodies of falling, but now are beyond being tempted. But the only authority on this subject that I respect says they are divided into cherubim, seraphim, thrones, dominations, principalities, powers. Their commander in chief is Michael. Daniel called him Michael. St. John called him Michael. These are the names of the angels.

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happy. Mothers, do not think your little children are alone when they quit this world. Out of your arms into angelic arms, out of sickness into health, out of the cradle into a Saviour's bosom! Not an instant will the darlings be alone between the two kisses—the last kiss of earth and the first kiss of heaven. "Now, angels, do your work!" cried an expiring Christian.

Yes a guardian angel for each one of you. Put yourself now in accord with this world. When he suggests the right, follow it. When he warns you against the wrong, shun it. Sent forth from God to help you in this great battle against sin and death, accept his deliverance. When tempted to a feeling of loneliness and disheartenment, appropriate the promise, "The angel of the Lord encampeth around about them that fear him and delivereth them." Oh, I am so glad that the spaces between their spheres have been thronged with these supernatural taking things home, bringing messages here, rolling back obstacles from our path and giving us defense, for terrificating the forces who dispute our way, and if the nation of the good angels is on our side the nation of bad angels is on the other. Paul had it right when he said, "We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." That awful fight! God send us mighty angelic reinforcement! We want all their wings on our side, all their words on our side, all their chariots on our side.

Thank God that those who are for us are mightier than those who are against us! And that thought makes me jubilant as to the final triumph. Belgium, you know, was the battleground of Europe and France. Yes, Belgium was once the battleground of opposing nations. It so happens that this world is the Belgium or battleground between the angelic nations, good and bad. Michael, the commander in chief on one side; Lucifer, as Byron calls him, or Mephistopheles, as Goethe calls him, or Satan, as the Bible calls him, the commander in chief on the other side. All pure angelhood under the one leadership and all abandoned angelhood under the other two armies. Many a skirmish has been fought, and the great and decisive battle is yet to be fought. Either from our earthly homes or down from our supernal residences may we come in on the right side, for on that side are God and heaven and victory. Meanwhile the battle is being set in array, and the forces celestial and demonic are confronting each other. Hear the boom of the great cannonade ready on all sides, principalities and powers are beginning to ride down their foes, and, until the work is completed, "Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon, and thou, moon, in the valley of Ajalon!"

PROFITABLE FARMING.

Six Hundred Dollars from an Acre of Land.

At a recent meeting of the Georgia State Agricultural Society, Mr. F. J. Merriam, who runs a splendid farm near Atlanta, Ga., in the course of an interesting talk made the following statement:

"If a man will but study his ground, he will find it to be fully as entrancing as the study of books. Through marriage I became connected with a small farm. With my brother-in-law I broke ground in 1893 to meet the market demands in Atlanta. That year I made only \$500, but the \$115 which I received from 250 hills of cucumbers convinced me that I was on the right track."

The next year I got 600 from one acre which I had planted in potatoes. The next year, 1895, I marketed \$3,329 worth of vegetables. This year I found lettuce to be the best seller, getting \$79.40 on that article. It was in 1896, however, that I struck luck and gained the final conviction that there is money in the land when the farmer studies his surroundings. In that year I sold 35,068 bushels of corn for \$760.90. I came from lettuce, \$583 from turnip salad and \$404.00 from beets. I keep books strictly, and find that it costs me exactly one-third of what I raise to pay the necessary expense, including repairs. In 1897 prices were low and the more ordinary vegetables were in demand, but even under this stringency I made \$4,738.60. Of this, \$293.55 came from three acres planted in tomatoes, \$938.90 from beans and \$292.35 from 188 bushels of corn. The market still depressed, but I made on that year, \$4,794.20, of which \$732.90 came from turnip salad and \$561 from collards. This year, notwithstanding the very bad season we had in the spring months, up to the 1st of August I have sold \$4,138.55 worth, \$600 of which came from one acre planted in cabbage, and I intend to pocket a round \$10,000 this year out of my little farm."

Georgia soil under system of deep plowing and thorough tillage and soil exchanges no longer fix the price of raw cotton. Can the southern people afford to sacrifice their commercial and industrial interests for mere political sentiment?

The foregoing effect, therefore, of a policy by which our government can not only find a sale for our product abroad, but bring to our farmers an increased price for their agricultural products can hardly be overestimated. In the argument of the day, we are told that the largest cities in the State are leached. Every county needs the lion's share of the fund. Here is the statement by counties:

Abbeville.....\$ 213.01  
Aiken.....7.00  
Anderson.....00  
Bamberg.....302.60  
Barnwell.....Not yet in.  
Beaufort.....239.20  
Berkeley.....00  
Charleston.....146.15  
Cherokee.....151.11  
Chesterfield.....1,047.50  
Clarendon.....690.84  
Colleton.....1,267.00  
Darlington.....00  
Dorchester.....72.61  
Fairfield.....262.70  
Florence.....178.78  
Georgetown.....00  
Greenville.....844.00  
Hampton.....220.29  
Horry.....1,702.00  
Kershaw.....3,663.00  
Lancaster.....1,224.09  
Laurens.....340.64  
Lexington.....1,321.79  
Marion.....249.73  
Marion.....47.90  
Newberry.....62.25  
Oconee.....625.24  
Orangeburg.....83.73  
Pickens.....45.65  
Saluda.....919.10  
Richland.....00  
Spartanburg.....Not yet in.  
Sumter.....00  
Union.....1,583.66  
Williamsburg.....90.47  
York.....00

The maintenance of our trade in the east can not necessarily mean the forcible annexation of the Philippines or the denial of the right of local self-government, but when the war is ended by treaty or otherwise, for congress to settle all questions in a just and constitutional way. I do not favor the adoption by this country of a colonial policy, because of the vexed and threatening problems growing out of it, but I do

think that if possible the United States should maintain sufficient interest in the islands to command equal trade rights with other nations in China. This will prevent for a long time the dismemberment of this vast empire. England and Japan favor the integrity of the empire, but they alone cannot guarantee it against other European powers.

As shown by the readiness with which the rights of treaty ports are set aside by controlling nations, the case of Manchuria is sufficient, and it justifies the statement that "these are feeble safeguards," and leads to the conclusion described by Senator McLaughlin, that "the United States, with the control of the Philippines by treaty or otherwise, will be in a position not only to insist upon, but to assert its equality of trade rights in the east. Without this," says the senator, "all the can do for her people is to firmly protest against their violation by other nations, but as in the past, is not in a position to assert and maintain them."

The Constitution has thus fully gone into this subject because of its engrossing and absorbing importance to our people.

But a few weeks ago, before a convention of Georgia farmers, Hon. D. A. Tompkins declared that instead of grumbling about the price of raw cotton, we should go forward and double, treble and even quintuple our receipts by sending the cotton abroad in its manufactured state. Under such a condition of things, the speaker declared that the south, instead of getting \$300,000,000 for her raw cotton, would be getting all for her goods and hominy in the west, would get nine hundred million, twelve hundred million, say, and even fifteen hundred million instead, and thus her farming population would be kept busy raising supplies to feed this grand army of consumers. Exaggerated as the statement may seem to have been, it little occurred to those present that already one of our southern states, South Carolina, had almost reached this identical point. When that cotton state is on the verge of withdrawing her entire raw cotton product from the markets of the world in order to satisfy the claims of her own mill men, it will be seen that Mr. Tompkins indulged in no futile dream, but that he was seeking accomplished business results.

With such an interest, therefore, in the markets of the world, when protection has been thrown down and active relation, acknowledged by the whole world, that we can hold the key to the situation, how idle and futile it is to hear southern men expressing their hope that our troops, the agents and the advance guard of this mighty development, "should be driven into the sea." The sentiment is not only unpatriotic, and that would be bad enough, but it is mischievous in the extreme to destroy the market which our manufacturers have built up, the system under which mills on the spot fix the price of cotton instead of leaving it, as heretofore, to cotton gamblers in New York and Liverpool.

With our raw products at stake, for which our farmers want high prices, which can only be gained by a multiplication of mills in the field, consuming the entire product as it promises to do in South Carolina, the question of our foreign trade, whether it be called political or not, stands first and foremost, and such policies must be adopted as will still further maintain and develop the growth of our country. All this talk about what to do with the Philippines becomes the verdict mouthed in the face of the actual necessities of the occasion. This is very well for "Lasschassett," when she says that the grand old state of South Carolina, to declare herself against eastern development, but it is the height of folly for those who are to be so largely benefited to fight against their own interests.

There is no desire to establish a military despotism in the Philippines, nor to deprive the people of these islands of their right to govern themselves, as soon as they can the legitimate right of foreign trade, whether it be called political or not, stands first and foremost, and such policies must be adopted as will still further maintain and develop the growth of our country. All this talk about what to do with the Philippines becomes the verdict mouthed in the face of the actual necessities of the occasion. This is very well for "Lasschassett," when she says that the grand old state of South Carolina, to declare herself against eastern development, but it is the height of folly for those who are to be so largely benefited to fight against their own interests.

## OUR TRADE IN THE EAST.

The Atlanta Constitution Endorses Senator McLaughlin.

The letter printed elsewhere, signed by the leading cotton spinners of South Carolina, is remarkable in many respects.

The purpose of this appeal is to enlist the co-operation of Senator McLaughlin and his associates in congress in preserving the "open door," as it is called in the Asiatic trade. In other words, the South Carolina cotton manufacturers, recognizing the fact that they depend upon the Pacific trade for the sale of their product, are anxious that we should occupy the position of "the most favored nation" in reaching the 800,000,000 consumers in the orient.

Before proceeding to a consideration of the political features of this letter, it will be well to consider, as before stated, the remarkable showing it makes. Within thirty years, with no attraction to the states, we can see the state of South Carolina has advanced from being one peculiarly agricultural until now she ranks next to Massachusetts as a manufacturer of cotton goods. It is claimed, with a commendable degree of pride, that this enterprising state is not only the foremost in the south in spindles, looms and in the number of hands employed, but also, in addition to standing next to Massachusetts, that her own local mills consume fully one-third of the cotton raised. The result thus achieved points to the development, within a few years, of such a condition that South Carolina will not have a single bale of raw cotton for export. When we consider that South Carolina is only a little in advance of her sister states of the south, and that the time is coming when local mills will take up the cotton crop equally as well as any other state, we can then appreciate to what great interest which is felt in the question of finding foreign markets.

The markets which have made this cotton development possible have been found in the far east. It is not long since that a freight train pulled out from Spartanburg with \$100,000 worth of cotton fabrics bound for the markets of China. It is not to be wondered at that with our purchasers standing behind the relations of the Asiatic trade, we should be greatly concerned about every political and military movement which may affect that trade so vital not only to our manufacturing but to our raw product interests. Under the conditions which have heretofore prevailed, the United States have been able to make the advances noted. With Russia and German interests paramount and seeking to be exclusive, England has been forced, by the presence of a large fleet, to keep open the door of the market. It has been under this "open door" policy and taking advantage of the tolerance of England that we have been enabled to accomplish what we have.

The manufacturers of South Carolina, after presenting the importance of this market, and showing the urgency for our control of the ports, pleading for the "open door" policy, forgetting other countries, and for the Asiatic trade, have been in the past, it hardly comes to the requirements of a civilized nation which should be in a position to insist as well as to claim. We cannot expect that the cordial entente which has heretofore existed between English and American merchants may exist forever. All are rivals in trade, and it behooves each nation to be in a position to speak and act for itself. Independent of the friendship or hostility of any other nation, that treaties do not protect is proven by the admission of the cotton manufacturers themselves when they state that although such treaty rights exist, of equal opportunity in Manchuria, as a matter of fact the Russians have broken down the Chinese customs wall and are rushing in their own goods free of a tariff which other nations must meet. What the cotton goods being produced for clothing the teeming millions of that warm climate. Their trade is the hope of this great manufacturing industry of the south. If it is cut off by other nations, not only the manufacturer but the producer of raw cotton will suffer. The present advance in spot cotton which our planters are enjoying is largely due to the mills of the south. They have forced the local market above New York. With active competition in the cotton goods being produced for clothing the teeming millions of that warm climate. 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